(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Which on the one hand the Commission has studied the situation in most of the major areas of the country where child labour is prevalent in hazardous industries on the other hand, it has focussed its attention on one particular area namely, Ferozabad district in Uttar Pradesh. The Commission has observed that elimination of child labour would require persistence, dedication and sustained leadership, both official and non-governmental, that has to be proven over a period of time. The steps taken by Central Government for withdrawal and rehabilitation of children working in hazardous occupations (including those working in glass bangle industry in Ferozabad, Uttar Pradesh) include (a) ensuring compliance of the implementation of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 and the provisions concerning children in other Labour Laws. (b) sanctioning of 76 National Child Labour Projects to cover about 1.5 lakh children in the child labour endemic States and (c) sanctioning of funds for carrying out surveys in 123 districts and for awareness generation activities in 133 districts.

Payment of dividend to the Share Holders of Super Bazar Co-operative Stores Ltd.

2489. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether dividend for the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 has not been paid to the share holders of the Super Bazar Co-operative stores Ltd;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to streamline the administrative set up of Super Bazar ensuring payment of dividend to share holders within six months from the closure of one financial year in future;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government also propose to issue instructions for publication of monthly Super Bazar Patrika regularly from January, 1997 and its regular despatch to members in future; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for keeping the editorial staff?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (d) According to the information furnished by the Super Bazar, dividend to the share holders for the year 1993-94 is being paid. The Board of Directors of the Super Bazar has approved payment of dividend for the year 1994-95 to the share holders which is being placed before the Annual General Body meeting for their approval. Declaration of dividend for the year 1995-96 is yet to be approved.

Govt. of India have advised the Super Bazar to finalise their annual accounts within the stipulated period every year.

(e) and (f) It has been reported by the Super Bazar that due to some administrative reasons, publication of Super Bazar Patrika' has been stopped by them for more than one year and at present they have no proposal for its regular publication and despatch to their members. It has also been informed by the Super Bazar that they do not have any separate editorial staff and officers for this purpose.

Default in the payment of PF in the Public and the Private Sector

2490. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total default in the payment of Provident Fund in the public and the private sector of the country; and

(b) the action being taken to prevent the violation of P.F. laws?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) As on 31.3.1996 the total amount of EPF dues recoverable from public sector and private sector was Rs.13,550.23 lakh and Rs.28,589.63 lakh respectively.

(b) Legal action as provided under sections 7A, 8, 14 & 14B of the EPF & MP Act, 1952 and, where necessary, also under section 406/409 of the IPC, is taken for recovery of dues outstanding against the defaulting establishments.

Employment growth in the context of process of economic reforms

2491. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employment coutent of growth has increased in the process of economic reforms;

(b) if so, how; and

(c) the role of private sector in the generation of employment?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Detailed study on the effect of Economic Reforms on employment or unemployment has not been made. However, results of the surveys carried out by the National Sample Survey Organisation (N.S.S.O.) reveal that the unemployment rate which was of the order of 3.77% during 1987-88 has come down to 2.56% during 1993-94.

(c) Employment in the organised private sector, which was of the order of 78.46 lakh as on 31st March, 1992 has gone up to around 84.68 lakh as on 31st March, 1996.

मितव्ययता संबंधी उपायों का पालन

2492. श्री गोपाल सिंह जी॰ सोलंकी: क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्रालय ने मितव्ययता उपायों का पालन करने का निर्णय किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) इन मितव्ययता संबंधी उपायों का किस हद तक पालन किया जाना प्रस्तावित है; और

(घ) इसके परिणामस्वरूप वर्ष 1996-97 के दौरान कितनी धनराशि की बचत की जाएगी/बचत किए जाने की संभावना है?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री बोल्ला बुलक्षी रमैया): (क) वित्त मंत्रालय द्वारा समय-समय पर जारी किए जाने वाले आर्थिक उपाय वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में अपनाए/लागू किए जाते हैं।

(ख) प्लान स्कीमों की मंत्रालय में समीक्षा की गई और भ्रम्पीडा, चाय बोर्ड, काफी बोर्ड तथा एपीडा में जो स्कीमें प्रचालन के योग्य नहीं पाई गई, उन्हें बंद कर दिया गया है।

(ग) प्लान स्कीमों की समीक्षा की हद तक आर्थिक उपायों को लागू किया जा रहा है।

(घ) इस समीक्षा से 1996-97 के दौरान 593.40 लाख रु॰ तक की बचत होने का अनुमान है।

Proposal to Hike the central issue price of foodgrains under the PDS

2493. DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to hike the central issue price for foodgrains distribution under the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to safeguard the interests of the weaker sections of society?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Government has not approved any proposal for revision of the Central Issue Prices of foodgrains distributed under the P.D.S.

Removing the ceiling in the payment of bonus and enhancing the ceiling in the payment of gratuity Act

2494. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be